

Mississippi Public Service Commission

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HATTIESBURG-SECOND DISTRICT

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September 28, 2001

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Magalie R. Salas
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445-12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

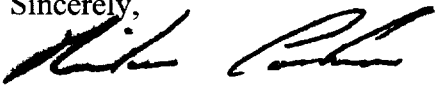
Re: CC Docket No. 96-45, No. 00-256; October 1st Certification Requirement for Rural Carriers

Dear Ms. Salas:

On September 24, 2001, the Mississippi Commission issued its Order which certified the rural carriers in Mississippi which will use federal universal service support in accordance with §254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Order inadvertently omitted Bruce Telephone Company, Inc. on page 3 in the ordering portion of the Order. Please accept the Amended Order which corrects the omission.

Attached is a copy of the Commission's Amended Order in its Docket No. 01-AD-573.

Sincerely,



Nielsen Cochran, Chairman



Michael Callahan, Vice-Chairman



Bo Robinson, Commissioner

Enclosure

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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

OCT 1 2001

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MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 01-AD-573

**IN RE: CERTIFICATION OF RURAL CARRIERS RECEIVING FEDERAL
UNIVERSAL SERVICE HIGH COST SUPPORT**

AMENDED ORDER

THIS DAY, there came on for consideration by the Mississippi Public Service Commission ("Commission") the need to certify to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and to the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") the rural carriers in Mississippi which will use all federal universal service support in accordance with § 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (1996 Act).

After reviewing the entire record of this proceeding, including all plans and comments filed by ALLTEL Mississippi, Inc., Bay Springs Telephone Company, Bruce Telephone Company, Inc., Calhoun City Telephone Company, Inc., CenturyTel of North Mississippi, Inc., Delta Telephone Company, Inc., Franklin Telephone Company, Inc., Decatur Telephone Company, Frontier Communications of Mississippi, Inc., Fulton Telephone Company, Lakeside Telephone Company, Myrtle Telephone Company, Inc., Georgetown Telephone Company, Inc., Mound Bayou Telephone Company, Noxapater Telephone Company, Sledge Telephone Company, Smithville Telephone Company, Inc., and Southeast Mississippi Telephone Company, Inc. and upon the recommendation of the Public Utilities Staff, this Commission finds as follows:

1. On August 14, 2001, the Commission established this Docket to certify, pursuant to the FCC's mandate in Federal/State Joint Board on Universal Service, Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45, and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256 that all federal universal service support provided to rural carriers in Mississippi will be used only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended and consistent with § 254(e) of the 1996 Act.

2. The following rural carriers submitted plans and comments to ensure compliance with the FCC mandate and § 254(e) of the 1996 Act:

**ALLTEL Mississippi, Inc.
Bay Springs Telephone Company
Bruce Telephone Company, Inc.
Calhoun City Telephone Company, Inc.
CenturyTel of North Mississippi, Inc.
Delta Telephone Company, Inc.
Franklin Telephone Company, Inc.
Decatur Telephone Company
Frontier Communications of Mississippi, Inc.
Fulton Telephone Company
Lakeside Telephone Company
Myrtle Telephone Company, Inc.
Georgetown Telephone Company, Inc.
Mound Bayou Telephone Company
Noxapater Telephone Company
Sledge Telephone Company
Smithville Telephone Company, Inc.
Southeast Mississippi Telephone Company, Inc.**

3. The Commission finds that based upon a review of each of the plans and comments filed by the above-named rural carriers, the Commission hereby certifies to the FCC that the above-identified rural carriers will utilize all federal universal service support only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended and consistent with § 254(e) of the 1996 Act.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED, that the Commission hereby certifies to the FCC and to the USAC, that the plans and comments of ALLTEL Mississippi, Inc., Bay Springs Telephone Company, Bruce Telephone Company, Inc., Calhoun City Telephone Company, Inc., CenturyTel of North Mississippi, Inc., Delta Telephone Company, Inc., Franklin Telephone Company, Inc., Decatur Telephone Company, Frontier Communications of Mississippi, Inc., Fulton Telephone Company, Lakeside Telephone Company, Myrtle Telephone Company, Inc., Georgetown Telephone Company, Inc., Mound Bayou Telephone Company, Noxapater Telephone Company, Sledge Telephone Company, Smithville Telephone Company, Inc., and Southeast Mississippi Telephone Company, Inc. are consistent with the 1996 Act and the pertinent FCC orders and that each named carrier will utilize all federal high-cost universal service funding in accordance with § 254(e) of the 1996 Act and pertinent orders of the FCC.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that this order and letter of certification shall be transmitted to the FCC and to the USAC.

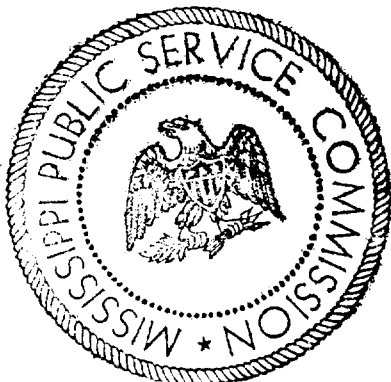
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that this order shall be effective upon its issuance.

SO ORDERED on this 28th day of September, 2001.

Chairman Nielsen Cochran voted Aye; Vice-Chairman Michael Callahan voted Aye;

Commissioner Bo Robinson voted Aye.

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Nielsen Cochran
Nielsen Cochran, Chairman

Michael Callahan
Michael Callahan, Vice-Chairman

Bo Robinson
Bo Robinson, Commissioner

ATTEST: A True Copy

Brian U. Ray
BRIAN U. RAY
Executive Secretary